

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. Claim 1 is the sole independent claim. Claims 9 is amended. No claims are canceled. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a), which states that drawings in a nonprovisional application must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Specifically, the Examiner alleges that the “electric filter” must be shown or the feature canceled from the claims. This objection is respectfully traversed. As Applicants do not believe that further drawing corrections are necessary, no further drawing corrections have been submitted.

Applicants respectfully submit that all necessary features of the invention set forth in the various claims are already illustrated in FIG. 1. The electric filter cited by the Examiner is not positively recited in any of the currently pending claims. For example, the preamble of claim 1 states that the high-voltage supply device may be used for an electric filter. Claim 1 also recites “high-voltage devices... adapted to supply the electric filter with an electrical high voltage.” Thus, the electric filter is not a positively recited feature of the invention as claimed, and is not required to be illustrated in the drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a).

Accordingly, no further drawings or drawing corrections are believed to be necessary and withdrawal of the Examiner’s drawing objection is respectfully requested.

Specification and Claim Objections

The Specification and claims 7 and 15-16 are objected to because the limitation/acronym PCF is not defined. As used in the present application, the acronym PCF refers to Photonic Crystal Fiber optical waveguides. By this amendment, Applicants have explicitly defined PCF in paragraph [0017] to comply with the Examiner's correction requirement. Accordingly, Applicants believe this objection has been sufficiently addressed, and respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1 and 9 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With regard to claim 1, claim 1 is directed to a high-voltage supply device. The preamble states that the high-voltage supply device may be used for an electric filter. The high-voltage supply device as claimed in claim 1 includes high-voltage devices. Applicants believe claim 1 is clearly worded to convey that the high-voltage devices included in the high-voltage supply device are adapted to supply an electric filter used in conjunction therewith (antecedent basis derived from the preamble) with an electrical high voltage. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the language of claim 1 is not ambiguous, and satisfies all the requirements of 35 USC § 112, second paragraph.

With regard to claim 9, Applicants have amended claim 9 to remove the ambiguous language cited by the Examiner.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 1 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §112 be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 – Reinhard in view of Williams

Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over DE Publication No. 3711244 (“Reinhard”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5990,687 (“Williams”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In the lone figure FIG. 1, Reinhard shows an arrangement of control and switching elements 10, which are used to control an arrangement of consumers 12. The control and switching elements 10 and the consumers 12 are supplied with power by a sub-distributor 2, which in turn is supplied via a line 9 from a main distributor 1 that is connected to a supply line 8.

All control and switching elements 10 are connected via a single glass-fiber line 11 to all the main consumers 12 and additionally to the respective sub-distributors 2 and the main distributor 1, connected upstream of the sub-distributors 2.

In contrast, independent claim 1 recites control units and measuring heads associated with high-voltage devices, wherein “the measuring heads, on the high-voltage device side, are connected via their optical waveguide interfaces in a first local optical waveguide network” and “the control units are connected to one another by a second local optical waveguide network”. Reinhard teaches only a single connecting glass-fiber line 11 in the form of a ring, which links all control and switching elements 10, all consumers 12 and the respectively associated sub-distributor 2 as well as the main distributor 1. Thus, Reinhard fails to teach or suggest first and second local optical waveguide networks as recited in independent claim 1.

In addition, Williams fails to cure the deficiencies of Reinhard, and thus, independent claim 1 is allowable over Reinhard in view of Williams. Dependent claims 2-18 are likewise

allowable over Reinhard in view of Williams at least for their dependence from an allowable base claim.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection of claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the rejections has been addressed and overcome, placing the present application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

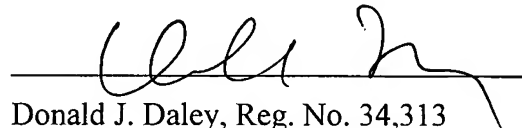
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Donald J. Daley at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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